

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - July 17, 2006

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Carlos Cardenas-Calvillos pled guilty today in federal court in San Diego before United States District Court Judge William Q. Hayes to a felony charge of conspiracy to aid and abet the distribution of controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1) and 846, and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Sherri Walker Hobson, who prosecuted the case, Carrillo admitted that he worked for “V and F Distributors” a company that operated a warehouse in the Otay Mesa area of San Diego, where a narcotics smuggling tunnel was discovered on January 25, 2006. In connection with his guilty plea, Carrillo admitted that the warehouse was used to store and distribute narcotics. In addition, Carrillo admitted that his work for the company was intended to create a facade that the company was operating a legitimate business, when defendant knew that the business was a “front” for narcotics smuggling and distribution.

Sentencing is scheduled for October 10, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Hayes.

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 06cr0382WQH

Carlos Cardenas-Calvillo

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Conspiracy to aid and abet the distribution of controlled substances
Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846
Title 18, United States Code, Section 2

Minimum mandatory: 10 years in custody; Maximum Penalty: Life in custody, up to \$1,000,000 fine, at least five years of supervised release.

AGENCIES

Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement (BNE)